

A GENUINE KONA STORM

Prof. Lyons Thinks It Is Not Over Yet.

WHERE IT CAME FROM

Territorial Meteorologist Describes Weather Phenomena Peculiar To Hawaii.

The storm which has prevailed for the past few days throughout the entire group of Islands, is the chief topic of discussion. The causes and effect, atmospheric and otherwise, have been advanced by the knowing ones. The individual who is unable to tell the difference between a ship's compass and a barometer, or a trade wind and a kona, is always heard in the land. It is a fact worthy of note, however, that the island group has been visited by the heaviest storm experienced for years, while the barometer has registered exceedingly low and the end is not yet.

During an interview yesterday afternoon with Professor Lyons, who has been connected with the Government survey for the past twenty-eight years, and who for the past nineteen years has kept the weather records, the Advertiser obtained much information. He states that the storms that have raged for the past few days is what has always been termed a "Kona" by the natives, meaning of course a strong wind from the southwest, called Kona in the native language, which indicates the southwest corner of the compass.

"The white population have adopted the word and use it to express this kind of a storm where the wind is from the south-west or varying to the west and north," said Professor Lyons. "There is no decrease of regularity in the coming of the Kona but they appear in the winter season and mostly in November, though occasionally in other winter months, one having occurred as late as April."

"In point of fact it is simply a temperate zone revolving storm, while the movement itself is from the northwest as near as known. These revolving storms pass across the Northern Pacific Ocean from east to west, generally as far north as latitude 40 or 50. We frequently catch one of the southwest side of the circumference of the circle that gives us northerly winds for a few days which pass off. When the path of the storm is well to the southward, then we catch the center and the southeastern side, which gives us southwest winds, shifting to the north after it has passed over. It seems likely that the recent storm is the one encountered by the Doris on her recent passage from Yokohama. She probably sailed out of it, possibly traveling more rapidly than the center of the storm did. Honolulu is very much sheltered from the Kona storms by the mountains, which set the winds back and break their force, as sometimes heard of a Kona prevailing on Maui, which is barely perceptible here; of course vessels at sea get the full force of it."

"The heavy surf on the reef and the very low barometer indicates that this was an extensive storm and quite violent at sea. As to the damage done by these storms in the past, it can be stated that houses have frequently been blown down at Koolau, on this island, and also at Koolau and other places on Hawaii. A point to be taken into consideration and from which the Kona storms have gained such an undesirable name is the fact that the native houses and coasting schooners are fitted out for trade winds and are not ready for winds coming in the opposite direction. The island shipping have often had occasion to run around to rainy lua for shelter during the prevalence of these storms, which generally last for two or three days, although they have been known to last a week, especially when the wind backs around again from west to southwest."

"The last heavy storm occurred in December 1898, there being no special features of it recorded and being but a couple of days. Not having heard from the other islands of the group as yet, I can give no results. There is no doubt, however, but that a heavy fall of snow has occurred on Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa. During the present storm the barometer registered 29.5, being the lowest recorded for a number of years. In January, 1891, the barometer registered 29.4, this being the lowest with two exceptions. It is a fact worthy of note, and of interest to some, that the barometer does not register as low here as in the typhoon and hurricane regions, where it falls to as low as 28. It would be well to state that in Honolulu we are so accustomed to mild weather, that any marked disturbance is made much of. It looks very doubtful as to whether the present storm is over yet, as the lower clouds are still coming from the southwest with baffling air. Up to Friday at noon four inches of rain had fallen during the storm."

The Valet Wins.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The jury in the suit brought by Frank Mowbray, a valet, against Howard Gould, a son of the late Jay Gould, for \$25,000 damages, for breach of contract, brought in a verdict today awarding \$5,000 to the plaintiff. Mowbray alleges that Mr. Gould engaged him as valet for life at \$50 per month after he had lost the sight of one eye and sustained other injuries as a result of setting off a damp sky-rocket on Mr. Gould's yacht July 1, 1892, and that he was discharged immediately after the statute of limitations barred a suit for damages on account of the injuries he had received.

A GREAT MEDICINE.

"I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and find it to be a great medicine," says Mr. E. S. Phipps, of Poteau, Ark. "It cured me of bloody flux. I cannot speak too highly of it." This remedy always wins the good opinion, if not the praise, of those who use it. The quick cures which it effects even in the most severe cases make it a favorite everywhere. For sale by all dealers and druggists. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents, H. T.

Eastern capital is looking westward, according to advice dated November 4. The alleged Vanderbilt deal has aroused interest among the big investors, and the belief in general in many circles that the next ten years San Francisco will become the fifth city in size of the Union, and a rival of New York in population and commerce.



CONTRACT AWARDED FOR ENGINE HOUSE NO. 4.

J. E. Reilly was yesterday awarded the contract for erecting Engine House No. 4 for the Honolulu Fire Department. His bid was \$18,945, the lowest of eight submitted to Superintendent of Public Works McCandless. The engine house will be a handsome structure of stone and brick and cement stucco ornaments. The building will be erected on the makai side of King street adjoining the Reform School. O. G. Traphagen is the architect. He will superintend the construction and interpret the plans for the contractor.

The front elevation is two stories in height of gable design, surmounted by a lofty bell tower with a Spanish roof topping it. The foundation piers will be of concrete. All the floors of the first story and the sidewalk in front of the building and the approaches to the doors, will be constructed of bituminous or asphaltum paving material. The roof of the main building will be covered with Spanish roofing tile. There will be two front main entrances. Sliding poles of polished brass extending from the ground floor to the ceiling of the second story are to be provided for the use of the firemen in descending from the second story to their engines when an alarm is sounded. Rubber air cushions are to be provided at the bottom of each pole. Electric lights and electric harness adjusters are to be provided, as well as automatic electrical devices for opening the doors. A loggia in the second story with arched windows is one of the pleasing architectural features.

TOO EARLY TO MAKE A FINANCIAL FORECAST.

A prominent banker stated yesterday that although the tax returns for Honolulu had made a good showing yet the real condition of the market would not be known until the returns from the other islands were known, which would not be in for a week or ten days. There was no radical change in the money market at present. The general tone of the market, however, was good, inasmuch as increased dividends were promised for next month from plantations and general business concerns. Still the best forecasts were often shattered. From these returns the banks make their advance figures for the coming year's plan of financial campaign.

PACIFIC HEIGHTS HOTEL PROJECT IN GOOD HANDS.

The recent inauguration of the electric railway system on Pacific Heights has stimulated activity in the hotel project of C. S. Desky, proposed for the picturesque City addition. The plans for a magnificent hotel were prepared for Mr. Desky a year ago, the site for which was to be one of the most commanding on the summit of the heights. The delay in the construction of the electric road prevented any headway being made in the matter of bringing the matter before investors. Now that the cars have begun daily trips up and down the zig-zagged road, there is assurance that capital will be forthcoming.

Mr. Hurlbut, potentate of Islam Temple, who came to Honolulu with the Mystic Shrine on the Zealandia a month ago, has taken hold of the matter and promised to interest California capitalists. Ed Pollitz and Mr. St. George of San Francisco, well known in connection with the money interests of the Hawaiian Islands, are interested and propose to invest quite a large amount in the scheme. Mr. Hurlbut is a builder and has under his superintendency at present the construction of the University buildings. While in Honolulu he expressed himself as pleased with the commercial and business outlook of Honolulu. The plans of the hotel were taken by him to San Francisco and there is a strong probability that sufficient capital will be raised to make the scheme a certainty. Mr. Hurlbut will be here in March with the pilgrimage of Mystic Shrine, which will be headed by the Imperial Potentate and proposes at that time to lay the results of his work before the representatives of the Pacific Heights project. He made one request before leaving. This was to the effect that Honolulu should subscribe enough capital to the hotel scheme to give it local coloring and show Mainland capitalists that Honolulu is believed in it. It is stated that \$50,000 has already been promised by local parties without the formality of a prospectus being issued. Had it not been that the enormous expense which Mr. Desky and Bruce Waring & Company have been put to in developing Pacific Heights and establishing the electric car line, they would have taken up the larger end of the hotel project themselves. Should Mr. Hurlbut succeed there is a probability that the plans will be materially changed.

STANGENWALD BUILDING DELAYED BY LACK OF BRICK.

Work on the front elevation of the Stangenwald Block is delayed by lack of pressed brick. Sometime ago the contractor discovered that he was 4,000 bricks short of the number which he should have received according to the manifest. The coast firm supplying the brick was notified of the shortage, but instead of sending on the required 4,000 they wrote saying there must have been a mistake in the count in this end. An urgent request was then sent asking for the brick, and all but about 1,500 have arrived. The corners cannot be completed without these and the roof cannot be laid over until that work is finished. The concrete floors are being laid in. These consist of layers of steel wire netting over which is spread concrete mixture.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF PACIFIC HARDWARE COMPANY.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Pacific Hardware Company held Thursday afternoon: B. F. Dillingham, president; Jas. Gordon, Spencer, vice-president and secretary; L. E. Pinkham, treasurer and manager; Geo. S. Harris, Jr., assistant treasurer; J. L. Poorman, auditor, and the following directors: Jas. L. Torbert, M. P. Robinson, O. St. J. Gilbert, all of Honolulu, and Chas. H. Daly, of San Francisco. The California law will be observed hereafter in regard to notices of meetings to directors and a change was made in the by-laws. The Pacific Hardware Company has taken in the firms of Castle & Cooke and J. T. Waterhouse.

BEST SUGAR RAISING IN JAPAN A FAILURE.

A Berlin commercial and industrial journal, writing on the production, consumption, and import of sugar to Japan, states that the efforts of the Japanese Government to promote the production of beet sugar in the island of Yezo had not been successful. A factory built in Mouhatsu with public money, but equipped with antiquated French machinery, was abandoned in 1896. A larger factory built at Sapporo, and provided with the newest German machinery, in 1890, has ceased working for some years. The production of raw sugar in the country decreased from 74 million pounds in 1893 to 24 million in 1897, while official statistics give a consumption of 231 million pounds in 1896, against 326 millions in 1897, and an importation of 173 million pounds in 1896 and 222 millions in 1898. The import of refined sugar more than quadrupled between 1890 and 1898, this trade being almost wholly in the hands of Hongkong refiners until 1895, when German firms began sending refined beet sugar to Japan. In that year they sent 19 million pounds, while in 1898 they sent 105 1/2 millions. The Hongkong exports to Japan also increased. In 1899 a syndicate of Austrian manufacturers resolved to send their sugar to Japan, an enterprise in which they are favored by the low freights of the Austrian Lloyd's. Only one quality of German sugar is sent, the German grain and wholly refined, while Austria-Hungary sends one kind wholly refined and a second which is half refined. Unrefined beet sugar is sent to Japan chiefly from the Philippines, Java, China, and Formosa, most of it being used in its raw state; but there are two refineries, one in Osaka, the other in Tokio, the former having British, the latter German, machinery. The native refined sugar is not coarse grained and costs more than the German imported sugar.

STOCK MARKET FIRM AND RISING.

Sugar shareholders are anxiously awaiting the arrival of to-day's steamer and the expected news of McKinley's election will undoubtedly give securities a firmer hold and loosen up the money market.

The week just closing has been one of the most active in stocks for several months. A great many thousands of dollars which have accumulated in dividends, savings of salaried men and bank balances of conservative capitalists have gone into the market in quest of sound sugar securities. Considerable foreign money has already been invested, not only from San Francisco, but recent comers to Honolulu who have securities in the far east which net them only 4 to 5 per cent, have added a cash surplus which has had a tendency to force stocks up.

Wahala closed on "Change yesterday strong at 129 a share, there being good sized orders for the stock at this figure, but none offered under 121. The most popular stock at this time is Oahu Sugar Company, large orders being in the hands of the brokers at 165, there appearing to be no stock of any amount offered under 170, although a few shares sold yesterday at 166.

Olan still continues to hold firm, an advance of 3/4 of a point being made for assessable, making that stock firm at 4 1/2 and 5 asked. The paid-up has had sales at 14 1/2, with orders still to be filled at that figure. The most active stock in the market in the last two days is McBryde assessable, which advanced steadily from 5 to a sale on yesterday's "Change at 9 1/2. The stock declined to 8 1/2 afterward, it being thought that the broker selling the stock had a large buying order and was endeavoring to establish the price at 8 1/2 or thereabouts.

Oahu Railway stock, which was selling a couple of weeks ago at 140 has come out at 150 a share and there are orders yet to be filled at that figure. The cheapest railroad shares offered are at 30.

Great activity was shown in Kihel this week. The stock rose to sale at 14 on 42 1/2 paid in. Many shares were sold at that figure and a few offered at 15. On Thursday another assessment of 2 1/2 was levied, making the stock paid in at 45, and the stock dropped down immediately from what was then an equivalent of 37 1/2 to 12 1/2. A few shares of the paid-up stock were sold at 15 per share. There are some prospective buyers in Kihel who are waiting the outcome of the meeting scheduled for November 29, at which time the proposition of putting \$50,000 of the paid-up capital stock into the treasury, is to be considered. While the stock sheets of the Honolulu Stock Exchange show a great many shares sold, the great bulk of the stock transfers have been made by the brokers between boards which they have not seen fit to record. The heaviest transfers between boards were in Wahala and Oahu.

The bond market seems to be quiet there being but little demand for the bonds and those that are selling are being held at par or a very slight premium. This is on account of there being so many gilt-edged stocks in view and investors feeling more justified in making investments in stocks rather than in bonds.

The sudden awakening in the financial market and the rise in stocks has caused everybody to ask what has forced stocks up. There are some who believe that the boom will burst, but the more conservative and knowing ones are of the firm belief that this is not to be the case. They attribute the awakening in stocks to the general reaction and to the anticipation of news by today's steamer of the election of McKinley. Honoluluans are the only ones who are going to purchase heavier Hawaiian securities in the event of the election of McKinley, but the Zealandia is expected to bring large buying orders from the States.

The general tone of the entire stock market, sugar and commercial, is firm.

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